AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (New) A seat ring assembly for a butterfly valve wherein the butterfly valve has a valve body which has an inner peripheral surface to be engaged by the seat ring assembly, the seat ring assembly comprising:

a seat part member having an outer circumferential surface defining an annular groove having an annular groove base circumferential surface, and an upstream side wall and a downstream sidewall opposing one another;

an annular insert member having an upstream end, a downstream end, an annular insert interior circumferential surface extending between the upstream end and the downstream end, and an annular insert exterior circumferential surface extending between the upstream end and the downstream end, the annular insert member being fitted in the annular groove of the seat part member with said annular insert interior circumferential surface engaging said annular groove base circumferential surface;

the annular insert exterior circumferential surface in combination with the upstream sidewall and the downstream sidewall of the seat part member comprising a valve body fitting annular groove having the upstream sidewall and the downstream sidewall of the seat part member extending radially outward beyond said annular insert exterior circumferential surface to form sidewalls of the valve body fitting annular groove, the valve body fitting annular groove being configured to conform to the inner peripheral surface of the valve body;

said annular insert member defining opposing first valve stem openings extending radially through the annular insert and said seat part member defining corresponding opposing second valve stem openings aligned with said first valve stem openings and configured for accepting a valve stem;

said annular insert exterior circumferential surface including a step extending circumferentially around said annular insert exterior circumferential surface so as to intersect said first valve stem openings, said step being circumferentially continuous with exceptions of the first valve stem openings, said step being oriented so that a downstream outer diameter of the insert member on downstream side of the step is smaller than an upstream outer diameter of the insert member on an upstream side of the step; and

a locking projection being provided on the annular insert interior circumferential surface.

6. (New) The seat ring assembly according to claim 5, wherein the downstream sidewall of the seat part member has a thickness of 2-5 mm.

7. (New) The seat ring assembly according to claim 5, wherein there is provided, extending in an axial direction of the seat ring assembly, one of a fitting groove or fitting protrusion on the annular insert interior circumferential surface.

8. (New) The seat ring assembly according to claim 5, wherein the locking projection on the annular insert interior circumferential surface is disposed at the downstream end so as to define a downstream opening at the downstream end of the annular insert member that is smaller in diameter than an upstream opening defined by the upstream end of the annular insert member.

9.(Currently Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing the seat ring assembly according to claim 7, comprising:

providing a die formed of an outer die, an upper die and a lower die;

seating the annular insert member inside the outer die with said one of a fitting groove or fitting protrusion on the annular insert interior circumferential surface engaging a corresponding one of a fitting protrusion or a fitting groove provided on an inner peripheral surface of the outer die;

sandwiching the outer die between the upper die and the lower die;

fitting stem cores in a stem core holes of the lower die through holes provided in the outer die; and

injecting rubber in the die through holes provided in the outer die so as to form the seat part member around the annular insert member.